Serial No. 10/568,339 Atty. Doc. No. 2003P09417WOUS

Amendments To The Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown.

- 1-6 (canceled)
- (currently amended) A method for operating a technical installation comprising a plurality of components, comprising:

placing one or more of the components into operation to perform a function relating to operation of the installation or taking said one or more of the components out of operation;

when a first of the components is placed into operation or taken out of operation, initiating an evaluation of other-multiple components other than said one or more of the components with assignment of a numerical value to each;

totaling the numerical values assigned to each of the other-multiple components other than said one or more of the components;

using the totaled numerical values for each of the other multiple components other than said one or more of the components to determine those of the other multiple components other than said one or more of the components which will next be placed into operation or taken out of operation;

assigning at least one of the other <u>multiple</u> components other than said one or more of the <u>components</u> at least one initialization value and adding the initialization value to the totaled numerical values of the <u>at least one of the multiple</u> components other than said one or more of the components; and

placing one of the other multiple components other than said one or more of the components into operation to perform a function relating to operation of the installation or one of the other multiple components other than said one or more of the components out of operation based on summation of numerical values.

8. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein at least one of said <u>plurality of components</u> is assigned at least one operating criterion and the operating criterion influences the initialization value of the <u>at least one of said plurality of components</u>.

Serial No. 10/568,339

Atty. Doc. No. 2003P09417WOUS

9. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein a startup and a shutdown command is issued for at least any one of said plurality of components on the basis of a plurality of operating state values of said at least one of saidthe plurality of components and at least one setpoint value specification.

- 10. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein a startup or shutdown command is issued for at least one of said plurality of components on the basis of a plurality of operating state values of the components and at least one setpoint value specification.
- 11. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the technical installation is a combustion system for generating electric energy.
- 12. (currently amended) A control system configured for operating a combustion system for generating electricity, comprising a plurality of components such that during operation of the technical installation, when each component is placed into operation or taken out of operation the control system initiates an evaluation of at least one other of the components by a numerical value, the control system totals the numerical values of each said at least one other of the components, and the control system uses the totaled numerical values to determine, among said at least one other of the components, those components which are to be activated or deactivated next, wherein the control system assigns to one of said at least one other of the components at least one initialization value and the initialization value is added to the totaled numerical values of the one of said at least one other of the components.
- 13. (currently amended) The control system as claimed in claim 12, wherein at least one operating criteria logic module and at least one component are assigned at least one operating criterion and the operating criterion influences the initialization value of the one of said at least one other of the components.
- 14. (currently amended) The control system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the control system issues switching logic by a startup and/or shutdown command for the onc of said at least one other of the components on the basis of an operating state values of the components and at least one setpoint value specification.

2